

Appl. No.: 10/756,855

Amdt. Dated April 24, 2006

Response to Office Action Mailed February 3, 2006

**REMARKS:**

Applicant appreciates the time and care the examiner has taken in examining the application.

In the amendments above, features from claims 4 and 7 have been added to independent claim 1, and claims 4 and 7 have been cancelled.

The rejections under Sections 103(a) are hereby respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons. In the invention as claimed herein, the modulation signal is output to the driver circuit (9) by the AND circuit (8) within the interval that the pulse signal (P1) is generated, as shown in Figs. 4, 5 and 6. More particularly, the AND circuit (8) overlaps the modulation signal to only the interval of the pulse signal. Accordingly, as shown in Fig. 9, the modulation light is intermittently irradiated toward the object to be measured. Therefore, an electric distance meter capable of extending a measurable distance range, while improving safety to human eyes, can be achieved, as more fully described in the specification at page 7, line 15 through page 8, line 5. Thus, it is submitted that the particular features set forth in amended claim 1 are neither disclosed in nor rendered obvious by the cited art. None of the cited references teach or suggest the structure described in amended claim 1 or provide the particular improvement gained by this structure. It is therefore submitted that the Section 103(a) rejections should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for prompt allowance and that all of the objections, rejections and requirements raised in the Office action have been met. Early, favorable treatment of this application is requested.

Extension Request and Fee Authorization. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees under 37 CFR § 1.17(a) for any necessary extensions of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a), which are hereby requested, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305.

The Examiner is encouraged to call Robert J. Schneider at the direct number (312) 845-3919 with any questions that arise in connection with this application, or to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 24, 2006

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

Attorney Docket Number: 1715465

Date of Facsimile Transmission: April 24, 2006

Transmitted to Facsimile No.: 1-571-273-8300

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence, namely: Response to Final Office Action, was transmitted by facsimile on the date listed above, to the U.S. Patent Office at the facsimile number listed above, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

Signature: 

Typed Name of Person Signing this Certificate: Robert J. Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383

Date of Signature: April 24, 2006